GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:127
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
RURAL SPORTS PROGRAMME
KAILASH MEGHWAL;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare schemes being implemented by his Ministry under the `Rural Sports Programme` for the welfare of youths and women in the country, State-wise;

(b) the formula adopted for sanctioning loan, grant and other kinds of financial assistance by the Government under these Schemes; (

(c) the component of financial assistance of the State Governments under these schemes; and

(d) the schemes being implemented directly by his Ministry or other voluntary organizations under the `Rural Sports Programme` during the last three years till date and the details of the funds provided by the Union Government as loan, grant and financial assistance, year-wise, scheme-wise and agency-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA SATRRED QUESTION NO. 127 F(27.11.2002 REGARDING RURAL SPORTS PROGRAMME ASKED BY SHRI SURESH CHANDEL AND SHRI KA MEGHWAL

(a) to (c) : The scheme of Rural Sports Programme waslaunched by the Government in 1970-71 with a view to broad-basing games and sports and tapping hidden talent in rural areas. Meant for the rural Youth, the scheme has the following two components:

(i) RURAL SPORTS TOURNAMENTS

Under this component, Rural Sports Tournaments are organized in selected Disciplines viz.Athletics, Tug of war, Archery, Hockey, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Weightlifting, Volleyball, Wrestling, Football (Boys only), at Block, District, State and National levels. The scheme is being implemented through the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

(ii) SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION

In order to broad-base games and sports in the otherwise neglected areas of the North Eastern States and to tap the hidden talent, which is in abundance there, Government of India approved this component of the Scheme in 1986-87 for the conduct of the North-East Sports Festival. Under the Scheme, North-East Sports Festival is organized by the Sports Authority of India in the North Easterr States, turn by turn, in close cooperation with the State Governments of this region, involving sportspersons from those States every year.

Under the Scheme, National level tournament separately formen and women is conducted by the Sports Authority of India (SAI). Financial assistance of Rs. 2 lakhs per Discipline is made available to SAI fororganizing the National level tournament in States in rotation. State-wise allocation of funds is not made under the scheme. Financial assistance is sanctioned to States/UTs on receipt of viable proposals from them.

The State/UT level tournaments are organized by the State/UT Governments. Assistance for holding the State level tournaments is provided @ Rs. 30,000/- per Discipline. In case of Union Territories, this assistance is given at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- per Discipline. Under the scheme, there is no provision for sanctioning loans to states or individual sportspersons. The rural sports tournaments at the Block and District levels, are organized by the State/UT Governments from out of their own resources.

(d) The Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports through the Sports Authority of India. Funds were provided to SAI for implementing the Scheme during the last three years, as per the following:-

YEAR	GRANT RELEASED TO SAI (Rs. in lakhs) Rural Sports Programme (Including North East Sports Festival)
1999-2000	Rs.57.04
2000-2001	Rs.85.09
2001-2002	Rs.116.00